

UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA  
ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS  
SECCION DE LITERATURA INGLESA

**Proposed Course Outline**

Course Title: Literature and Women	Pre-requisites: LM-1477
Course Code: LM-1368	Co-requisites: None
Credits: 3	Semester: VI
Hours: 9 Class Work: 4 Out-of-Class Work: 5	Type: Simple
Level: 3rd year	Semester II-2013

**I. Description:**

*LM-1368 Literature and Women* is the fourth of the six courses which comprise the optional minor in Literature within the Bachelor of Arts in the English program. It is a three-credit course, given three hours weekly for one semester. The main objective of this course is to develop students' awareness of the significance of gender in literary studies while exploring the diversity of outlooks, issues, and responses manifested by and about women in literature.

**II. Course Objectives:**

1. General Objectives

- A. To have a clear understanding of the pervasive significance of gender in literary and cultural studies.
- B. To develop analytical skills and English fluency.
- C. To encourage interest in, appreciation of, and enjoyment of literature.

2. Specific Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- A. understand the significance of gender as a component of literary/cultural texts.
- B. define, differentiate, and equate "gender" and "sex."
- C. recognize how elements of character development, language use,

setting, dialogue, and plot reveal gender bias and relevance in narration.

- D. identify and differentiate traditional and nontraditional representations of women.
- E. examine the social and literary foundations and repercussions of gender stereotypes.
- F. identify the narrative strategies employed by women writers to subvert or surpass cultural and/or literary restrictions.
- G. explore the relationship between feminism, literature, and the real world.
- H. understand that a change of perspective in terms of gender, literature and feminism can enable us to strive for a world of gender equality and justice for women and men around the world.

### **III. Contents:**

- A. Overview of the interrelationships of gender studies and literary studies
- B. Brief history of women's writing
- C. Traditional, transitional and contemporary views of women in literature
- D. Language and female discourses
- E. Individual and collective female identities
- F. Gender, race, and ethnic minorities

### **IV. Methodology:**

Students will have reading assignments every week including theory and historical references as well as literary texts. The professor will explain and expand concepts as necessary, and guide students in the application of feminist theory to the selected literary texts. Students are expected to prepare conscientiously, participate actively, and generate both questions and answers. Course activities include the following: lectures, pair work, group discussions, individual and group analyses (both oral and written). Punctual attendance and a diligent commitment to the timely reading of the works assigned are essential for the successful development of the course.

## V. Evaluation:

Evaluation is continuous in the sense that daily preparation and participation are taken into consideration. The final grade will be determined on the following basis:

-Class work (participation and quizzes)	20%
-Two essays	20%
-Reading Journal	10%
-Two exams	50%

## VI. Textual Materials

### Textbook:

Meyers, Kari and Gilda Pacheco. ***Women and/in Literature: Unique Voices, Shared Visions***. San José: Editorial UCR, 2011

### Course packet:

Selection of poems and short stories.

## VII. Some bibliographical sources for further reference

Booth, Alison, ed. *Famous Last Words Changes in gender and Narrative Closure*.

Charlottesville: UP Virginia, 1993.

Gilbert, Sandra and Susan Gubar, eds. *The Madwoman in the Attic*. New Haven:

Yale University Press, 1984.

Millet, Kate. *Sexual Politics*. Urbana: U of Illinois Press, 2000.

Showalter, Elaine. *Inventing Herself: Claiming a Feminist Intellectual Heritage*.

New York: Scriber, 2001.

Rooney, Ellen, ed. *Feminist Literary Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University, 2006

Tyson, Lois. *Critical Theory Today*. New York: Routledge, 2006.

*Women and Literature: Gender 2002*. Kimberly M. Radek. Summer 2001. 28 July

2007 <<http://www.ivvc.com>>.

**Women and/in Literature LM-1368 II-2013**

**Professor: Luis Salazar**

**Tentative Chronogram<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Theory</b>	<b>Literary Texts</b>
1	August 16	<b>Introduction to the course</b>	
2	August 23	• Intro/Chapter 1: pp. 13-26	
3	August 30	• Chapter 2: pp. 27-37	
4	September 6	• Chapter 2: pp. 37-51 <b>Quiz 1</b>	
5	September 13	• Chapter 2: pp. 51-59	
6	September 20	• Chapter 3: pp. 61-73	
7	September 27	• Chapter 3: pp. 73-80 <b>Quiz 2</b>	
8	October 4	• Chapter 3: pp. 80-87 <b>Essay 1 Due</b>	
9	October 11	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
10	October 18	• Chapter 3: pp. 87-95	
11	October 25	• Chapter 3: pp. 95-99	
12	November 1	• Chapter 4: pp. 99-108 <b>Quiz 3</b>	
13	November 8	• Chapter 4: pp. 108-120	
14	November 15	• Chapter 4: pp. 120-133 <b>Essay 2 Due</b>	
15	November 22	• Cyborg Manifesto (The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo) <b>Journal Due</b>	
16	November 29	<b>Final Exam</b>	
17	December 6	<b>Final Grades</b>	
18	December 13	<b>Ampliación</b>	

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<sup>1</sup> At the professors' discretion